

I am requesting the commission's support for a positive vote for broadcaster multicast must carry. As a broadcaster, we see the opportunity of multicasting to widen our digital broadcast commitment to the local communities we serve. We see a future opportunity to utilize the expanded multicast capacity to increase clearance on cable of localized content such as local high school or college sporting events, 24/7 weather and news content, and or public town hall meetings. Without multicast must carry, we will be at the mercy of the large cable companies to negotiate carriage of such local multicast channels. As a small market network affiliate, our contractual commitment to our network do not allow us much opportunity to preempt network programming in order to offer coverage of local events. With multicast must carry, broadcasters will have the necessary clearance on cable to provide this additional content to all of our local viewers.